

SAY! JUST KEEP YOUR EYE ON LIBERAL—IT IS A TOWN THAT WILL BEAR WATCHING

Historical  
Topeka, Kans.

IF YOU WANT IT  
USE THE DEMOCRAT  
WANT COLUMN

# THE LIBERAL DEMOCRAT

IF IT IS FOR SALE  
USE THE DEMOCRAT  
WANT COLUMN

THIRTEENTH YEAR. NUMBER SIX.

LIBERAL, SEWARD COUNTY, KANSAS, THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 1919.

\$1.50 PER YEAR.

## PETITIONS FOR HARD ROADS

Petitions Are Now Being Signed by the Farmers in the Territory North of Liberal.—Must Be Filed in Topeka on or Before July 5th.

Just how bad the people of Seward county want hard surfaced roads will be evidenced within the next few days. Inspired with the conviction that Seward County should have her part of the government appropriation of \$15,000 per mile for the establishment of hard surfaced roads, two of her enterprising citizens, Mr. Lee Larrabee and Joe Trindle, went to Topeka at their own expense last week, and ironed out the question of just what was essential to get this aid.

They are home, with the result that the matter has been taken up with the other citizens, and petitions drawn, that are being circulated among the interested farmers north of the city for the paving of the road straight north of Liberal to a line even with the Plains road, thence 14 1/2 miles east to the Meade County line. These petitions call for brick paving with asphalt filling of concrete base or bituminous macadam, or concrete paving.

The benefit district outlined in these petitions starts just north of the city limits of Liberal, where it extends one mile in either direction and gradually widens until it extends four miles in either direction at the northern and eastern terminus.

Enterprising citizens are busy with these petitions this week. All the interested farmers in the benefit district will be called on if possible. Any who may be in the city are urged to call on Mayor Griffith at his office, and investigate the proposition, and sign up if they want the benefit of these roads.

Petitions are also being circulated to carry the same improvement from Liberal to the Oklahoma State line, a distance of about five miles.

### PROMINENT BEAVER FARMER LOSES FOOT UNDER TRAIN

Ernest Savoy, a young farmer living near Beaver, was the victim of a sad accident in the Rock Island yards, close to this city, about 12 o'clock Monday night. He had come from Beaver expecting to take the Rock Island passenger No. 2, to go to Wichita to buy a number of repairs for a separator soon to be put in use to thresh a portion of the big wheat crop in that section, but missed this train. In his anxiety to reach his destination he boarded a thru freight, hoping to get to Hutchinson early the next morning, and proceed from there to Wichita. He was informed that this train would be held over at Pratt, and so got off this train after it had passed the eastern limits of the city. Another freight train soon after came along, and he attempted to board it, with the result that he was thrown under the wheels which severed his left foot from his limb a little above the shoe top, and seriously bruised his head and shoulders.

It is not known just how long he layed by the tracks, but he was picked up by a switch engine crew about 12:30, and brought to the Morrow Hospital, where it was found necessary to make an amputation slightly below the knee. The flow of blood from the wound had been considerable up to the time of the discovery of the accident.

Dr. Morrow gives especial praise to the first aid service rendered Mr. Savoy by the train crew who picked him up. The quickest bandage that could be procured was made from the victim's shirt which was torn from his back, and made into bands that were twisted so tightly around the limb that it was a task to get them off, but had no doubt saved his life. The doctor says it was the work of an expert.

### WANT TO HAUL WHEAT OVER BRICK PAVING.

A bunch of the south side business men got a hearing with the city dads at the council rooms Monday morning, and petitioned that the work of laying the brick on the paving base already in on the south side be completed at once, so the farmers could haul their wheat over that part of the thoroughfare. It will be very inconvenient for the dealers, the majority of whom are located in that part of the city, to receive the grain by any other route, and the city en-

gineer is absolutely opposed to permitting the hauling of any vehicles over the base before it is properly sanded, and the brick laid and surfaced. The city dads concluded that both the business men and the city engineer were correct, and an effort will be made to get the brick work completed in time.

### THE WHEAT HARVEST HAS STARTED HERE

Wheat Ripening Fast But Shortage of Help Retarding the Work.

The wheat harvest is on. The warm weather of the past week has caused the grain to ripen fast and cutting started earlier than was anticipated.

A number of fields were ripe enough to start the binders Monday and no time was lost getting into them.

Weather conditions continued favorable right up to the last and as a result the yield will be heavy.

The greatest worry at this time is that of securing help to care for the crop. Secretary Ray Millman of the Chamber of Commerce is getting gray fast trying to get men for the farmers. He has been busy with the telephone and telegraph, but despite his efforts as the paper goes to press he is short over 150 men with the work just beginning.

Unless conditions improve, it is going to be necessary to close up the business houses and take care of the grain. With one of the greatest crops the southwest has ever produced it would be a shame if it could not be harvested and if it comes to a showdown we are of the opinion that every able-bodied man in town will get into the game.

There is no danger of a surplus of help and should this item meet the eye of anyone wanting harvest work he would do well to buy a ticket for Liberal. Many are predicting that the harvest here will last twenty to thirty days, and with the present help situation it will last longer.

### BOY RUN DOWN BY AUTO

Jimmie Stewart, son of Mrs. Laura Stewart, met with quite a severe accident Tuesday afternoon.

Jimmie and some other children were playing near the L. E. Allen home when Jimmie decided to cross the street to the Methodist Church, and just at that time W. S. Higgins turned the corner north of the church, striking the child. The car is shot to have passed over the upper part of his back, bruising it severely; his neck is also injured. He was at once hurried to the Liberal Hospital and at this time is getting along quite satisfactorily, tho the seriousness of his injuries can not be fully determined for a few days.

Mr. Higgins was driving at a moderate rate of speed and the accident was quite unavoidable.

### SHIPMENT OF NEW CARS

The Chalmers-Allen Motor Company is in receipt of a shipment of cars and those desiring a car would do well to get next to one of these. It is generally conceded that the demand for cars will far exceed the supply after harvest.

### THEY CAN EARN MONEY WHILE THEY ARE WAITING.

The great amount of street improvement going on in Liberal is helping out the harvesters who arrive in the city. In most instances these men have to wait for assignments from a half to a full day, before the farmers come in to take them out to their places, but not so in Liberal. If they are industrious, and want to work, the Stanton Construction Company will put them on the job at once, and they can work all they can at the rate of forty cents per hour, and get their money for this work at any time it becomes necessary for them to leave.

In fact, the Stanton Construction Company are having some time to keep any men on their work, which will be much interrupted until after harvest, and the city authorities, while in great stress to get the street paving completed, are constrained to be lenient, as the wheat harvest should take precedence over all improvements just now.

### LOCATING ROUTE FOR LIBERAL HUGOTON RAILROAD

Mr. Byers, of the Oklahoma & Kansas Rail road, accompanied by the chief engineer and Ed Woods of Liberal, were in Hugoton Tuesday looking over the proposed route. They went on out to the Cimarron river to locate a crossing. Several citizens accompanied them to the river. Mr. Byers brought the petitions to be circulated to call for an election and for bonds and they are being circulated. There seems to be no doubt but what we will get the railroad.—Hugoton Hermes.

### BUILDING HEADER BARGES QUITE AN INDUSTRY NOW

A visit to the lumber yards this week developed the fact that the header barge industry was about the only building going on at present. Nearly every able bodied workman has been drafted into the harvest service. Quite a number of header barges are being built however, and the instructions are to rush the work.

Leslie R. Holland, who spent several months with the expeditionary forces in France, returned home the first of the week.

## SERVICE

It is doubtful if anyone could find a word of bigger meaning in the modern languages than the word "service." What a multitude of virtues it covers—what a concourse of pleasure it creates—what a status of harmony it maintains. It is a redeeming feature in every walk of life. It is the biggest, noblest effort of life to be of service.

Service is the profit maker for humanity. True service, while submerging human selfishness leads on to greater accomplishments. Its definition includes all there is in industry. Service is the home builder, the farm builder, the business builder, the town builder, the city builder, the state builder, the nation builder, and greater than all, the builder of love and truth, and all that partake of their nature.

Yes, service is the town builder, and that is a subject we want to think about. A newspaper that does not help to build its town is a nonentity. If it merely serves the desire of its publisher to make money, it is a failure. A newspaper just to serve its friends and punish its enemies is an incubus on any community. The idea of a newspaper having friends and enemies in a personal sense is inconsistent. Its only friend should be principle, and its only enemy a lack of principle. It is principle and not personalities that constitute the realities of life.

We want to make the Democrat a paper of service. We know that if we give good service to the people of Liberal, our financial success will follow as a result of that service. We can't expect co-operation without giving co-operation.

And say, do you want an antidote for discouragement, the blues, bad disposition, that tired feeling, and a hundred and one of the unhappy conditions of life. If so, just find some service you can do for someone else, and do it without expecting any return in the form of acknowledgement or even gratitude, but just for the satisfaction of knowing you have been of service to someone. And don't pick out some particular friend to serve. The greatest happiness anyone ever gets in life is to know that they have given good service—have helped someone who needed help—without letting the one they helped or anyone else know it. Service is service—not selfishness.

### WHEAT AT \$3 BUSHEL

It Will Sell for More Than Government Price, Declares Jake Baker, of Hutchinson.

Wheat will be selling for \$3 per bushel within twelve months, in the opinion of J. R. Baker, one of Hutchinson's best posted grain men.

"Wheat will come nearer selling at 75 cents over the government price than 5 cents under it," declared Mr. Baker. "It will be worth more than that. We'll find this Kansas wheat crop bringing \$3 per bushel and it will be worth it."

As to the crop yield, Mr. Baker figures that the western Kansas wheat belt will produce an average of twenty bushels per acre this year. He came in last night from a 350-mile trip through the wheat belt. He brings back some splendid reports.—Hutchinson News.

### TO BEAUTIFY THEIR HOME SURROUNDINGS

Landscape Gardener, E. A. Akers reports that the people of Liberal are waking up to the advantages of pretty home surroundings. He reports that he has been employed by C. H. Leete, Earl Dawson and C. E. Doll to make plans for beautifying their residence places. These calls coming unbidden is evidence of a growing civic pride.

### UNCLE SAM HELPS ON SEWARD COUNTY ROADS.

Furnishes Big Tractor for Road Building Purposes—Solves One of the Big Road Building Problems.

The fact that Uncle Sam has no further use for a lot of the thousands of tractors and trucks built for war purposes, and that these were to be loaned for the purpose of improving the roads of the country has not been overlooked by the enterprising county commissioners of Seward County, and they now have assurance that they will soon receive two of the big five-ton, and three of the two-ton trucks, and a huge caterpillar tractor that will be put to good service.

This was one of the problems that was hard to solve recently when the road was to be worked between Liberal and Hugoton. The county had the graders, but the power to pull them through the ground was only to be had by the farmers furnishing a number of teams and men to drive the teams in order to accomplish the work before harvest. The farmers were all so busy that it was a hardship to furnish the teams and men.

With this huge caterpillar tractor in the road service, the power problem for the roads will be solved. These trucks and the tractor are to remain in the charge of the county

## THEY ALL WANT RAILROADS

so long as they are not otherwise needed by the government. The county will be required to pay freight charges on these machines and keep them in good condition.

We understand that Stevens County has made application for a similar consignment of machinery from the government.

### HUTCHINSON HAS CONTRACT AWARDED

Construction on New Railway Northwest of Liberal to Start Aug. 10.

By August 10 the Kansas & Oklahoma Railway Co., expects to be starting construction of the new railway that will run from Liberal northwest through Stevens and Morton counties to the Colorado state line. O. P. Byers, president of that company announced to-day.

The grading contract has been let to Paul Buskirk, of Hutchinson. He will move to Liberal in a short time and establish headquarters there. The intention to start construction work as soon as the wheat harvest is over, and push the work all fall and winter.

### From Liberal Northwest

The proposed railway will extend from Liberal northwest across Seward and Stevens counties to Hugoton, where it will cross the Santa Fe's Elkhart extension. From Hugoton it will run almost due west thru Richfield, county seat of Morton county, and then straight west to the Colorado line.

It is the intention, Mr. Byers explained, to build the road on into Baca, Col., later, but the state line will be the present objective. The road will be 65 miles long from Liberal to the state line.

### Also Southeast of Liberal

Southeast of Liberal the same company will build 30 miles to Forgan, Okla., where the road will connect with the M. K. T.'s Wichita Falls line now terminating at Forgan. This will give the K. & O. railway a total of 105 miles.

"We will build the road northwest from Liberal first," Mr. Byers said. "The communities thru which we build are extending aid to build the road. It is really a community building proposition."

### Voting Aid Bonds

Aid bonds for the railway have already been voted at Liberal. Elections have been called in Stevens county for July 8, will be held in Liberal township in Seward county about July 15 and in Morton county about the first of August.

The country thru which the road will build is a very rich agricultural section, Mr. Byers said, but is at present for the main part without railway facilities. The building of the road will be followed by big development. The headquarters of the Kansas & Oklahoma Railway Co., are in Hutchinson, with the Anthony & Northern headquarters. Mr. Byers is at the head of both projects.—Hutchinson News.

### A GOOD SHOW WINDOW

A window display that is making a hit these hot days, is to be found at the Craig Shoe Store. It is one of the nicest that the writer has seen in a long time, and will prove a good ad for its planner, Earl Craig, who owns the Liberal Swimming Pool which the display advertises. A mirror has been laid in the center of the window base floor, and sand and grass banked all around it to give the appearance of a water pool. Posing in such a manner that they appear to be admiring the cooling water are a couple of "Splash Me" dolls, with their figures reflected from the mirror, and giving a most inspiring effect—at least it is catching the eye of most every passerby, who turns and walks closer to study it. It is a good display—and good displays pay, or the people who run the big stores in the city would not spend so much money on them. Next to newspaper advertising, window displays are the best advertising possible, and they are worthy of special thought and preparation.

W. F. Mullinix of Hooker was a business visitor in Liberal the first of the week.

Elmer Huber of Tyrone was a business visitor in the city yesterday.

Mr. Byers Besieged by Committees From Towns in All Directions.—Election Called in Stevens County to Vote Bonds on July 8th.

Everything points to an early commencement on the building of the Byers railroad from Liberal to Hugoton. Petitions, with the necessary signatures were presented to the County Commissioners of Stevens County last Monday, and an election to vote the bonds to carry out the enterprise has been approved and called for July 8th. The business men of Hugoton, a number of whom have been in Liberal the past week, say the building as far as Hugoton is thus assured, and they also say that the people on westward, toward Richfield, Morton county, are working enthusiastically on the petitions to carry the road to their town. The people of Baca County, Colorado, are lending assistance to the extension in their direction, it is understood.

Now comes the information that Elkhart, and the farmers in the territory directly west of Liberal, are making a strenuous endeavor to interest Mr. Byers in the building of an airline railroad between these points along the Kansas and Oklahoma state line. A meeting was held Tuesday night in the neighborhood sixteen miles west of Liberal, and it is understood committees have been appointed to offer inducements to Mr. Byers to take this line under consideration.

In the few weeks past it has developed that the influential citizens in the vicinity of Gray, Oklahoma, and Ochiltree and Hansford, Texas, are besirring themselves to get direct railroad connection with Liberal. Beaver, Oklahoma, is also interested in getting her line connected with Liberal, because it is well understood that the project to be built northwest will eventually lead to the great coal supplies in Colorado.

All of these projects are within the range of good business judgment for the communities interested. It means that all the intervening territory will multiply in population if these projects are carried out, and they all penetrate very rich territory. Following the splendid harvest that is now under way, their accomplishment will not be a hard problem. This railroad extending north and south is almost a certainty, and the western proposition may develop strength.

With these lines, Liberal will become the principal distributing point in the great southwest. Before the snow flies the locomotives may be pulling loads of grain from all the directions mentioned. Better keep your eye on Liberal.

Mr. Byers has on hand the rails and ties to build the Liberal to Hugoton project. The building of the grade and laying of the rails will follow the voting of the bonds in a very short space of time.

### WHERE HARVEST HELP MAY BE SECURED

Sixty miles west lies Baca County, Colorado, a territory 45x60 miles. Many men have homesteaded land there and are still living there and tending spring crops.

Large numbers have already gone east to aid their friends with their harvest. But still some remain at home tending their crops and milking their cows.

It is believed some men can yet be secured by farmers needing men, if they will take their cars and bring them in.

Our Chamber of Commerce has furnished a large number of men, but will not be able to secure all the help needed.

### DANCING PAVILLION IN SUNNYSIDE COMPLETED

The new Sunnyside Dancing Pavillion has been completed and the first dance will be given Saturday night. Wolley's orchestra will furnish the music.

The structure is of ample capacity insuring the lovers of dancing ideal entertainment.

It is the intention of the promoters to establish a park about the pavillion and have refreshment stands, etc.

See the ad in this issue.